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REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 5-7 and 9-11 have been amended, and claims 3 and 4 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claims 1, 2, and 5-11 are pending and under consideration.

I. Priority Claim

The specification has been amended to include the priority claim, which was stated by Applicants in the application transmittal, in the first sentence of the specification as requested by the Examiner.

II. Rejections Under 35 USC § 112

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 11 has been amended to define the acronym "ILR", as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 4 and intervening claim 3, claim 5 has been amended to depend from claim 1, and claims 3 and 4 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claims 6, 7 and 9 have been amended to include the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 3, and claim 10 has been amended to include the limitations of base claim 1. Accordingly, allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

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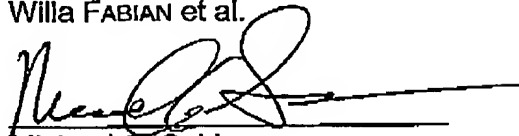
III. Conclusion

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney to attend to those matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date